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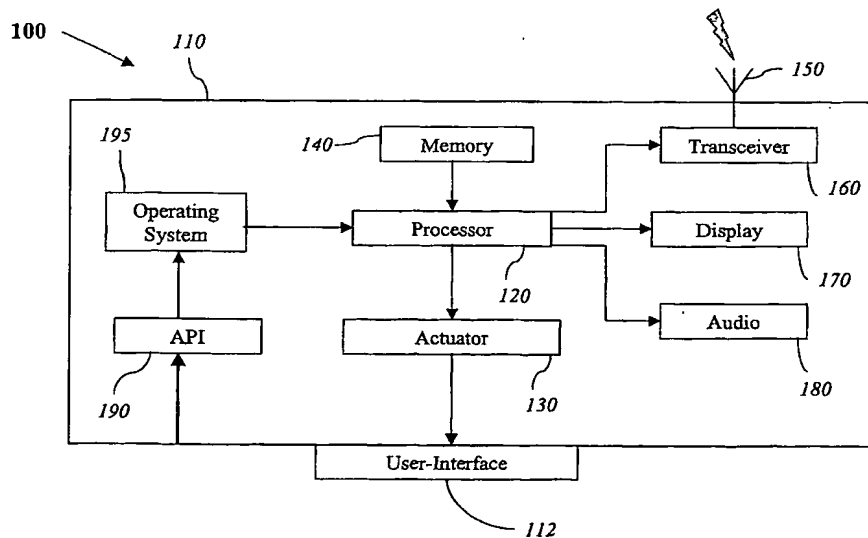
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(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING A VIRTUAL TOUCH HAPTIC EFFECT TO HANDHELD COM-  
MUNICATION DEVICES



(57) Abstract: Embodiments of the invention relate to methods and systems (100) for providing customized "haptic messaging" to use of handheld communication devices in a variety of applications. In one embodiment, a method of providing virtual touch to a handheld communication device includes: receiving an input signal associated with a virtual touch; outputting a request relating to a contact with a user-interface member coupled to a handheld communication device; and providing a control signal associated with the contact to an actuator coupled to the handheld communication device, the control signal being configured to cause the actuator to output a haptic effect associated with the virtual touch.

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